

January 21, 2024

Formerly, when I rose, I began to pray as soon as possible. But I often spent a quarter of an hour to an hour on my knees struggling to pray while my mind wandered. Now I rarely have this problem. As my heart is nourished by the truth of the Word, I am brought into true fellowship with God. I speak to my Father and to my Friend (although I am unworthy) about the things that He has brought before me in His precious Word.

—George Muller

The King Who Invites Us to Pray

Scripture for Meditation

Hebrews 4:14–16

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

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Hymn of Intercession

Before the Throne of God Above

Before the throne of God above,
I have a strong, a perfect plea,
A great High Priest whose name is “Love,”
Who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on His hands,
My name is written on His heart;
I know that while in heav’n He stands,
No tongue can bid me thence depart;
No tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair,
And tells me of the guilt within,
Upward I look and see Him there,
Who made an end of all my sin.
Because the sinless Savior died,
My sinful soul is counted free;
For God, the Just, is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me,
To look on Him and pardon me.

Behold Him there, the Risen Lamb,
My perfect, spotless Righteousness,
The great unchangeable I AM,
The King of glory and of grace!
One with Himself, I cannot die,
My soul is purchased by His blood;
My life is hid with Christ on high,
With Christ, my Savior and my God,
With Christ, my Savior and my God.

Offertory Hymn of Redemption

Jesus Paid It All

I hear the Savior say,
"Thy strength indeed is small;
Child of weakness, watch and pray,
Find in Me thine all in all."

Refrain:

*Jesus paid it all,
All to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.*

For nothing good have I
Whereby Thy grace to claim,
I'll wash my garments white
In the blood of Calv'ry's Lamb.

Lord, now indeed I find
Thy power and Thine alone,
Can change the leper's spots
And melt the heart of stone.

And when before the throne
I stand in Him complete,
"Jesus died my soul to save,"
My lips shall still repeat.

Elvina M. Hall, 1820-1889

Prayer of Blessing

Responsive Reading

Isaiah 1:12–20

When you come to appear before me, who has required of you this trampling of my courts? Bring no more vain offerings; incense is an abomination to me. New moon and Sabbath and the calling of convocations—I cannot endure iniquity and solemn assembly. Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hates; they have become a burden to me; I am weary of bearing them.

When you spread out your hands, I will hide my eyes from you; even though you make many prayers, I will not listen; your hands are full of blood.

Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes; cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

“Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool. If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land; but if you refuse and rebel, you shall be eaten by the sword; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”

Hymn of Invitation

Approach, My Soul, the Mercy Seat

Approach, my soul, the mercy seat,
Where Jesus answers prayer;
There humbly fall before His feet,
For none can perish there.

Thy promise is my only plea,
With this I venture nigh;
Thou callest burdened souls to Thee,
And such, O Lord, am I.

Bowed down beneath a load of sin,
By Satan sorely pressed,
By war without and fears within,
I come to Thee for rest.

O wondrous love! to bleed and die,
To bear the cross and shame,
That guilty sinners, such as I,
Might plead Thy gracious Name.

John Newton, 1725-1807

Prayer of Corporate Confession

Silence for Personal Confession

Take a moment for self-reflection, and talk with God quietly about your sin and your need for a Savior.

Assurance of Pardon

Luke 22: 31b, 32a

Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat,
but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail.

Response: Thanks be to God.

Hymn of Comfort

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

What a Friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged,
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness,
Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy-laden,
Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge –

Take it to the Lord in prayer;
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?
Take it to the Lord in prayer;
In His arms He'll take and shield thee,
Thou wilt find a solace there.

Joseph M. Scriven, 1855

Dismissal for Children

During this next song, children ages 3 – K5 may be dismissed for children's classes downstairs.

Hymn of Supplication

Speak, O Lord

Speak, O Lord, as we come to You
To receive the food of Your Holy Word.
Take Your truth, plant it deep in us;
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness,
That the light of Christ might be seen today
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us
All Your purposes for Your glory.

Teach us, Lord, full obedience,
Holy reverence, true humility;
Test our thoughts and our attitudes
In the radiance of Your purity.
Cause our faith to rise; cause our eyes to see
Your majestic love and authority.
Words of pow'r that can never fail—

Sunday Service Times

9:15 am Family Bible Time
10:00 am Corporate Prayer Service
10:45 am Corporate Worship Service

*A nursery is available for all services. Sunday sermons are available on our website or at ebcupstate.sermonaudio.com

Emmanuel Bible Church is a community of believers committed to glorifying God by applying the Gospel to every area of life and to making disciples who will love God with all their hearts and their neighbors as themselves.

We are thrilled to be a part of what God is doing in the Upstate. Few things are as exciting as seeing lives and relationships changed through the clear teaching of God's Word. After all, we are made expressly to be in a relationship with Him and to recognize Jesus as our Lord and Savior. At Emmanuel we strive to bring God glory through singing and praying together, hearing His Word preached, loving Him, and loving one another.

We would be delighted to have an opportunity to meet you. We are here to help and encourage you through the teaching of God's Word and through biblical fellowship.

—*Brad Baugham, teaching pastor*

Ministers

The congregation at large

Pastors

Jonathan Bastoni

Brad Baugham

Will Coen

Rhett Gieck

David Schwingle

Deacons

Duel Deason, Facilities

Norman Bunn, Facilities

Ian Bender, Ordinances & Offering

Minister of Worship

Brian Pinner

*Administrative Assistant &
Children's Ministries*

Margaret Bastoni

Nursery Director

Janine Gieck

*Welcome & Greeting
Coordinator*

Sherry Ferguson